

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claims 14, 16, 19-23 and 30, and add new claims 31 and 32 as follows.

These claims will replace all prior listings, or versions, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims :

Claims 1-13 are cancelled.

14. (Currently Amended) An electro-optical display cell, ~~particularly a liquid crystal cell, or electrochemical photovoltaic cell~~ comprising:

—at least one transparent front substrate whose top surface forms the front face of the cell;

—at least one back substrate that may also be transparent or not, whose lower surface forms the back face of said cell;

—a sealing frame joining the front and back substrates and defining a volume for retaining an electro-optically or photo-electrically active medium in a sealed manner;

—said front and back substrates including on their faces opposite each other at least one electrode each, these electrodes being intended to be connected by conductive paths to an electrical power or control circuit and defining lateral electric contact zones,

wherein the conductive paths are each formed of a first part in contact with the electrodes at the level of the lateral electric contact zones, and a second part extending over the back surface of the cell, contact means arranged continuously or discontinuously over the edge, ~~or and/or the back, or the edge and the back,~~ of said cell forming the electrical junction between the first and second parts of the conductive paths.

15. (Previously Presented) The cell according to claim 14, wherein the contact means take the form of discrete bumps.

16. (Currently Amended) The cell according to claim 15, wherein the first parts of the conductive paths come into lateral contact with the conductive bumps , whereas the second parts of the conductive paths can extend as far as the top of said bumps and cover said bumps~~them~~ in whole or in part.

17. (Previously Presented) The cell according to claim 15, wherein the second parts of the conductive paths extend at least partially underneath the conductive bumps .

18. (Withdrawn) The cell according to claim 14, wherein the contact means take the form of a tape of anisotropic conductive material.

19. (Currently Amended) The cell according to claim 14, wherein the cell~~it~~ includes a stack of (n) individual cells, each of the individual cells being defined by two substrates belonging thereto.

20. (Currently Amended) The cell according to claim 14, wherein the cell~~it~~ includes (n+1) superposed substrates, these (n+1) substrates being joined in pairs by a sealing frame.

21. (Currently Amended) A multi-layered liquid crystal display cell including:
_____four superposed substrates joined in pairs by sealing frames which each define a sealed cavity for retaining liquid crystals; and;

_____ a first sealing frame joining the substrates, while a second sealing frame joins the substrates and a third sealing frame joins the substrates, said substrates including on their faces opposite each other at least one electrode each, said electrodes being intended to be connected by conductive paths to an electric control circuit and defining lateral electric contact zones,

wherein the conductive paths are each made up of a first part in contact with the electrodes at the level of the lateral electric contact zones, and a second part extending over the back surface of the cell, contact means arranged continuously or discontinuously on the edge, ~~or and/or~~ on the back, or on the edge and on the back, of said cell forming the electric junction between the first and the second parts of the conductive paths.

22. (Currently Amended) The cell according to claim 14, wherein ~~at~~ the power circuit or the control circuit is mounted on the back of the cell.

23. (Currently Amended) The cell according to claim 21, wherein ~~at~~ the power circuit or the control circuit is mounted on the back of the cell.

24. (Previously Presented) The cell according to claim 22, wherein the circuit is mounted directly on the back of the cell.

25. (Previously Presented) The cell according to claim 23, wherein the circuit is mounted directly on the back of the cell.

26. (Previously Presented) The cell according to claim 22, wherein the circuit is mounted on the back of the cell via a printed circuit board or a flexible conductive film.

27. (Previously Presented) The cell according to claim 23, wherein the circuit is mounted on the back of the cell via a printed circuit board or a flexible conductive film

28. (Previously Presented) The cell according to claim 14, wherein a transparent or coloured absorbent layer for relaxing thermo-mechanical stresses and able to resist a chemical etch bath is deposited on the back of the cell.

29. (Previously Presented) The cell according to claim 21, wherein a transparent or coloured absorbent layer for relaxing thermo-mechanical stresses and able to resist a chemical etch bath is deposited on the back of the cell.

30. (Withdrawn Currently Amended) A method of metallising a group of liquid crystal cells wherein the method includes the steps of:

- metallising the back of the cells while the latter are still in batches;
- separating the cells in individual cells;
- arranging the group of cells on a support or fitting so that the cells are arranged parallel to each other obliquely and staggered in relation to each other; and
- depositing via evaporation an electrically conductive material on the edge of the cells to be metallised.

31. (NEW) The cell according to claim 14, wherein the cell is a liquid crystal cell.

32. (NEW) The cell according to claim 14, wherein the cell is an electrochemical photovoltaic cell.